

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/624,454

Examiner

Van Kim T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

CASEY ET AL.

Art Unit

2456

– The **MAILING DATE** of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to May 6, 2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-21 (being renumbered as 1-20).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date May 6, 2010
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

/Rupal D. Dharia/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2400

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's representative, Charles W. Gray on May 17, 2010. The application has been amended as follows:

Specification

[00303], line 1, page 2: Change the word "and U.S. Pat. Appl. No. --/--,--," to the word "and U.S. Pat. Appl. No. 10/452,996,"

Applicant is also advised to review and provide updated status of related applications listed in [0001], [0002] and [0003].

Claims

Claim 1:

- Change the word "claim-shell" in line 12 to the word "clam-shell"
- Change the word "combatable" in line 23 to the word "compatible"
- Include limitations of claim 4 to read:

1. A network interface device comprising:
a body-portion, wherein the body-portion comprises:

an isolation device adapted to isolate a transport medium internal to a customer premises from a transport medium external to the customer premises such that

operational changes to one of the internal and external transport media do not affect the other of the internal and external transport media; and

a first interface coupled with the isolation device and adapted to communicate with the external transport medium, wherein the external transport medium is in communication with a distribution point;

at least one hinge coupled to the body-portion; and

a lid-portion coupled to the body-portion via the at least one hinge such that the body-portion and the lid-portion form a clam-shell design, wherein when closed, the clam-shell design is configured to restrict access to the body-portion and the lid-portion and when opened provide access to the body-portion and the lid-portion, the lid-portion comprising:

a second interface in communication with the isolation device and adapted to communicate with the internal transport medium;

a plurality of microservers disposed external to the customer premises and coupled with the first and second interfaces, wherein the plurality of microservers are adapted to receive information from the external transport medium and includes software and hardware for implementing a first microserver to process the collected data and a second microserver to exchange the data between the internal transport medium and the external transport medium wherein the plurality of microservers are plug-and-play compatible such that any of the plurality of microservers are configured to be able to be added and/or removed from the network interface device at any time and without configuration, and wherein the plurality of microservers are integrated in the network interface device, and wherein at least one of the plurality of microservers comprises a

television signal microserver adapted to receive encoded telecommunication information from the external transport medium and to generate television signals from the encoded telecommunication information for transmission over the internal transport medium;

a processor in communication with the plurality of microservers and having software instructions to coordinate transmission of the collected data over the transport medium external to the customer premises;

wherein the isolation device is further adapted to provide communications security by preventing a microserver from accessing communications information which is associated with another microserver; and

an addressable application device coupled with the plurality of microservers, wherein the addressable application device is adapted to receive the processed telecommunication information and to execute a defined application as an aid to implementing the functions over the internal transport medium.

Claim 4: Cancelled.

Claim 5: Change the words "claim 4" in line 1 to the words "claim 1"

5. The network interface device recited in claim 1 wherein the addressable application device is disposed external to the customer premises.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-3 and 5-21 are allowed.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Van Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3073. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Rupal D. Dharia/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2400

Van Kim T. Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2456

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